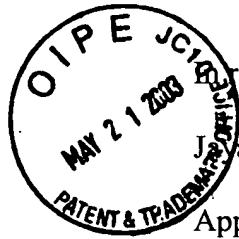


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Re Patent Application:

J. Varaman et al..

Application Number: 09/933,256

Filed: August 20, 2001

For: COATED VASCULAR GRAFTS  
AND METHODS OF USE

Examiner T. BARRETT

Group Art Unit 3738

OS  
6-2  
#81/c

RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 21, 2003, please amend the above-captioned patent application, as follows:

AMENDMENT

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 2, the first paragraph on page 3, the second paragraph on page 3, the third paragraph on page 3, the fourth paragraph on page 4, the fifth paragraph on page 4, the sixth paragraph on page 4, the first paragraph on page 5, the fourth paragraph on page 5, the sixth paragraph on page 5, the first paragraph on page 6, the third paragraph on page 6, the fourth paragraph on page 6, the fifth paragraph on page 6, the fourth paragraph on page 10, the second paragraph on page 11, the first paragraph on page 12, the second paragraph on page 14, and the fourth paragraph on page 14, with their corresponding replacement paragraph, as follows:

The present invention is directed to grafts, such as stent grafts, made of fabrics coated with unique polyurethanes, such as THORALON® biomaterial, manufactured by Thoratec Corporation, having a principle place of business in Pleasanton, CA, which provide a compliant, strong and impermeable barrier. Grafts according to the invention are particularly useful for the repair of vascular defects in large vessels, such as AAA. However, grafts coated according to the invention are not limited to AAA repair, and may be used in a variety of